

2006 Grants

Western Hemisphere: 13 projects

Name of Organization: Levantamos: The Center for Afro-Brazilian-American Cooperation

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Developing entrepreneurial skills for young women

This grant increases opportunities for Afro-Latino women to achieve self-sufficiency through the ownership of small businesses. Four U.S. minority small business owners provide entrepreneurship training to 50 Afro-Latino women in two Brazilian cities; six Brazilians travel to the U.S. for three weeks to work with U.S. small business owners; and four other U.S. minority small business owners return to Brazil to provide guidance and support to the 50 Afro-Latino women's business start ups.

Country(ies): Brazil

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Population Communication International

Location: New York, NY

Subject: Working with radio producers on coverage of democratic values as they relate to cultural and ethnic diversity

This grant supports a media exchange program designed to promote responsible coverage of democratic values as they relate to cultural and ethnic diversity. The project sends four U.S. radio news producers to Peru to conduct a five-day workshop for 25 provincial radio producers on how to engage their communities in discussions on human rights, democracy/fair elections, narco-trafficking and terrorism. Ten Peruvian radio producers also come to the U.S. for five-week internships at radio stations serving Latino audiences.

Country(ies): Peru

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: NY

Theme(s): Media

Name of Organization: Columbia College

Location: Columbia, SC

Subject: Increasing entrepreneurship for young people and women in Colombia

This grant is designed to increase entrepreneurship among young people and women by creating partnerships and business ventures between business people in South Carolina and Colombia. Project activities include bringing 16 Colombians to South Carolina for two weeks to develop a manufacturing and marketing strategy for product export and sending ten Americans to three cities in Colombia to conduct workshops with the 16 Colombians for 150-200 young business leaders. The project also establishes Junior Achievement programs linked to Colombian businesses within the school systems.

Country(ies): Colombia

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: SC

Theme(s): Business, Women's Empowerment

Name of Organization: International Republican Institute

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Expanding economic opportunities for indigenous and Afro-descendant groups in Bolivia and Peru

This grant expands economic opportunities for indigenous and Afro-descendent groups in Bolivia and Peru. The project sends 18 Americans to the two countries to conduct six five-day training programs for 750 people and bring five Bolivians and five Peruvians to the U.S. for one week to meet with small business owners and corporate responsibility experts. Eight Americans also join with all program participants to conduct four workshops in Peru and Bolivia for an additional 200 people.

Country(ies): Bolivia, Peru

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Special Olympics

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Supporting Special Olympics athletes in Mexico

This grant focuses on Mexico, targeting Sonora, Chihuahua, Nuevo Leon in the north and Mexico City and the State of Mexico in the central part of the country. The project builds capacity within Mexican schools and community based clubs by improving their infrastructure to sustain and service the 20,217 athletes participating in existing programs and to reach out to 2,200 new athletes. Grant activities include sports training sessions and athletic competitions in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

Country(ies): Mexico

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: Partners of the Americas

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Implementing exchanges that support the development of democratic values in the Western Hemisphere

Partners of the Americas implements exchanges designed to enhance mutual understanding through personal involvement and linkages of key volunteer specialists in fields such as citizen participation, judicial reform, public administration, the promotion of minority and indigenous rights, journalism, environmental and historical conservation, education, economic development and trade, and visual and performing arts. These activities directly support the development and fostering of democratic values to improve understanding among people of the Americas.

Country(ies): Multiple

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance, Media, Business

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: Partners of the Americas

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Implementing the American Business Fellows Program to promote economic growth, jobs and prosperity in the Western Hemisphere

The American Business Fellows Program supports a major theme of the 2005 Summit of the Americas: to create economic growth, jobs, and prosperity in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. Approximately 40 public and private sector participants are taking part in internships that assist in creating welcoming environment for smaller scale private enterprises in their countries. The program offers a unique opportunity to individuals from the private sector, and to a lesser extent, public sector counterparts who shape the business environment, to develop technically competent and culturally sensitive workers who interact with peers throughout the Americas.

Country(ies): Multiple

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Business

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: Partners of the Americas

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Implementing the American Fellows Program to promote excellence in government in the Western Hemisphere

At the April 2001 Summit of the Americas, President Bush announced the American Fellows Program. This program is intended to promote mutual understanding and excellence in government within the hemisphere through the exchange of outstanding mid- to senior-grade officials in government agencies of participating countries. The Department of State was assigned the responsibility of coordinating the program in the U.S. Partners of the Americas was selected to manage and implement this program due to its strong track record of programming in the Western Hemisphere. Over the past three years, Partners has generated a significant level of interest, and government agencies in the U.S., Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada have responded enthusiastically to the opportunities that the program offers. To date, 60 Fellows have been placed in more than 30 host agencies-- federal, state, and county agencies-- throughout the United States.

Country(ies): Multiple

Region: Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: American Center for International Labor Solidarity

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Implementing exchanges for labor leaders in eight countries in multiple regions

The American Center for International Labor Solidarity (ACILS) is implementing the following exchanges: U.S. study tour to Algeria; U.S. study tour to the Ukraine; U.S. study tour to Kenya; African Telecommunication Trade Unionists study tour to the U.S.; U.S. study tour to Oman; U.S. study tour to Colombia; U.S. study tour to China; U.S. study tour to India; Brazilian study tour to U.S.; African Trade Unionists study tour to U.S.; and scholarships for foreign trade union leaders to study at the George Meany Center.

Country(ies): Algeria, Ukraine, Kenya, Oman, Colombia, China, India, Brazil

Region: Africa, Near East, South and Central Asia, Western Hemisphere

U.S. State: OR

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: Sister Cities International

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Supporting Sister City partnerships in over 130 countries

Sister Cities International (SCI), which promotes mutual understanding among citizens of the U.S. and abroad through the activities of the 1,300 U.S. cities affiliated with more than 2,400 sister cities in 137 countries around the world, acts as a coordinator and catalyst in the development of various types of sister-city programs. This grant partially supports SCI functioning as a clearinghouse to gather, analyze and disseminate information and work directly with community leaders and citizen volunteers, as well as elected officials.

Country(ies): Worldwide

Region: Multiple

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: The American Council of Young Political Leaders

Location: Washington, D.C.

Subject: Implementing two-week exchanges for young political leaders

The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) supports the development of democratic practices and productive, ongoing contacts between politically active individuals in the United States and their overseas counterparts by coordinating a series of exchange programs for U.S. and foreign participants. These exchanges directly support the Department's U.S. strategic goal to open political systems and societies to democratic practices, the rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights. ACYPL is implementing a series of two-week study tours, involving up to 30 delegations of seven to twelve members each.

Country(ies): Worldwide

Region: Multiple

U.S. State: DC

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: University of Alaska

Location: Fairbanks, AK

Subject: Supporting the implementation of the Ninth International Permafrost Conference

The University of Alaska is implementing a variety of activities designed to address the preparation, planning and implementation of the Ninth International Permafrost Conference. Specific activities include (1) the conference, to be held June 29-July 3, 2008, on the University of Alaska-Fairbanks campus and which focuses on issues associated with understanding permafrost evolution and its feedback to climate change; (2) the operation of the Education and Outreach Coordination Office, which supports activities related to the International Polar Year (IPY), including the travel of U.S. specialists to IPY activities abroad; and (3) the creation of a "Think-tank of the North"--a set of public seminars given around Alaska by prominent scientists, policy makers, and authors who have focused on understanding and adapting to the ongoing challenges the Arctic faces.

Country(ies): Worldwide

Region: Multiple

U.S. State: AK

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project

Name of Organization: World Affairs Council of Oregon

Location: Portland, Oregon

Subject: Creating international connections in three cities and towns outside of Portland, Oregon

This grant supports the World Affairs Council of Oregon's efforts to increase that state's international connections in education, business, government and the non-profit sector in the cities and towns outside of metropolitan Portland. Project activities include the development of three regional centers in Medford, Pendleton and Bend; visits by international visitors at each center; outreach to schools; strengthening of adult discussion groups; and website development.

Country(ies): Worldwide

Region: Multiple

U.S. State: OR

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Congressional interest project